

**No. R-231. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of James Hester of Burlington.**

(S.C.R.13)

By Senator Kitchel,

*Whereas*, Jim Hester was a true champion for improving the nation's health care and worked creatively to develop systems to make this goal a reality, and

*Whereas*, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering and a doctorate in urban studies and affairs from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master's degree in education from Saint Michael's College, and

*Whereas*, during an amazing career that spanned approximately a half century, Jim Hester was employed in the academic, nonprofit, and public sectors, and

*Whereas*, his higher education appointments were at what has become the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, University of Cincinnati, University of Massachusetts, and University of Vermont, and

*Whereas*, in senior roles at Kaiser Permanente in California, ChoiceCare in Cincinnati, Tufts Medical Center in Boston, and MVP Healthcare in Williston, Jim Hester focused on developing new solutions to challenges in health care delivery and financing, and

*Whereas*, from 2007 to 2010, Jim Hester served as director of the General Assembly's Health Care Reform Commission, developing innovative new ideas for the provision of health care in our State and playing a leading role in Vermont's Blueprint for Health and Accountable Communities for Health programs, and

*Whereas*, Jim Hester served as a senior advisor at the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation and as the first director of its Population Health Models Group, and at the federal Centers for Disease Control, Jim Hester furthered his work on transforming the nation's health care system, and

*Whereas*, in recent years, as an advisor at the Vermont Public Health Institute, he continued his important work as an innovative national leader in the formation and implementation of health care policy, and

*Whereas*, Jim Hester was an outstanding board member of academic, health care, and business organizations, and he enthusiastically backpacked, bicycled, and engaged in interesting photography projects, and

*Whereas*, Jim Hester, who was thought of as a wonderful professional colleague and friend, died on May 12, 2019, and his survivors include his wife, Sarah, their children, and grandchildren, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of James Hester, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Jim Hester.